



# STATE OF IOWA

TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR  
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR

## STEM ADVISORY COUNCIL BROADBAND COMMITTEE

Co-Chair John Carver, Superintendent, Howard-Winneshiek Community School District  
Co-Chair Robert von Wolfradt, Chief Information Officer, State of Iowa  
Amy Kuhlers, Program Manager, Connect Iowa  
Robert Denson, President, Des Moines Area Community College  
Dave Duncan, President, Iowa Telecommunication Association  
Philip Groner, Iowa Communication Network  
Karl Hehr, Director of Technology Services, Ames Community Schools District  
Galen Howsare, Chief Financial Officer, Iowa Association of School Boards  
Karen Randall, Keystone Area Education Association  
Michael Sadler, Assistant VP for Public Policy  
Larry Siegel, Iowa School Finance and Information System Services  
Jeff Weld, Executive Director, Governor's STEM Advisory Council  
Josh Byrnes, State Representative, District 14  
Steven Soddors, State Senator, District 36

September 19, 2013

The STEM Advisory Council Broadband Committee is soliciting input from stakeholders all across Iowa who can offer insights into the unique broadband challenges facing the state, as well as provide thoughts on possible solutions. This input will help enhance efforts in developing effective policy recommendations to expand broadband access, adoption and use for all Iowans.

To offer comments, please address the questions below. All responses are considered public information, so please do not include confidential information in your response.

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- I. What barriers or other issues can you identify that may impede the increase of broadband access, adoption and use across the state?

Some ISP's such as local telco's are unable to provide necessary bandwidth to support 1:1 implementations, and increased use of online educational applications.

The ICN has a number of part 3 school sites facing a 25 Mbs bandwidth limitation. For most schools, bandwidth of 25 Mbs will not be adequate. The ICN can provide the additional bandwidth that is needed by leasing additional DS-3's from local telcos.

The part 3 sites affected are those where the ICN is leasing circuits from local telcos. Although three DS-3 circuits are available to the ICN, they are only leasing one from the local telco. My understanding is that each DS-3 that is leased could provide an additional 45 Mbs of bandwidth to these part 3 sites. The single DS-3 that is currently being leased, can provide 20 Mbs of bandwidth for the ICN classroom, and 25 Mbs for Internet access.

- II. If you had to choose one *primary* barrier, what would that be?



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The ICN placing a 25 Mbs bandwidth limit at some part 3 sites. The following schools are affected in the AEA 267 service area:

AEA 267 Clear Lake office  
Buffalo Center  
Clear Lake  
Dows  
East Buchanan  
Lake Mills  
Manly  
Newman  
Nora Springs  
Sumner  
Ventura

Manly, Nora Springs, East Buchanan, and Sumner wanted to exceed their 25 Mbs limit this past year to support their 1:1 efforts.

III. What recommendations do you have to overcome these barriers?

ICN lease additional DS-3's at a state defined price, or provide Internet access via other circuits

IV. What are your expectations for future access needs?

10 Mbs per 100 students

V. Other comments?

We see this as an equal opportunity/equity issue.